HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 296 By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to honor Leon and Joyce Biles, Gold Pyramid Award nominees.

WHEREAS, every two years, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority nominates husbands and wives who have been married 50 years or more for the Gold Pyramid Award, a Black Family Achievement Award recognizing the endurance and achievements of black families; and

WHEREAS, this year's nominees include the Biles family of Knoxville, a close, loving family headed by Leon Biles and his wife, Joyce; and

WHEREAS, this family truly believes in and practices the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"; and

WHEREAS, the Biles family exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, the Biles have lived in eight states and Japan; they have called Knoxville, Tennessee, home for approximately 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Biles is a valuable employee of the Knoxville Community Development Corporation, where he serves as an assistant housing manager. He retired from the military after proudly serving for 20 years in the U.S. Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Biles, who received her college education at Central Missouri State, is a Language Arts teacher in the Knox County School System.

WHEREAS, She is active in many civic and community organizations, including being a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and serving as a Girl Scout Leader and Red Cross

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volunteer. She has been recognized by the Tennessee Commission on National Community Services for her leadership in programs designed to work with students, particularly underachievers; and

WHEREAS, the Biles are a fine example of "the enduring black family"; Leon and Joyce are the proud parents of four successful children: LaTanya, Leon II, Lance, and LeLand and the grandparents of two lovely grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Leon and Joyce Biles are faithful and active members of their church, serving with distinction as Sunday school teachers and Bible School organizers; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and commend this very special family for this much deserved nomination for the Gold Pyramid Award; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Leon and Joyce Biles of Knoxville on being nominated for the Black Family Achievement Gold Pyramid Award and wish them every continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.